



Student: **Michael Higley-Vance**

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EL7002-8

Dr. Linda Collins

E-Learning Instructional Strategies

Activity #7: Synthesizing e-Learning Themes

Comments: Below you will find e-learning quotes synthesized and at the link provided here http://youtu.be/BK8TK_xMOvc you will find a visual representation of these quotes.

Faculty Use Only

Hi, Michael, your presentation is excellent and I really like your diverse selection of quotes. One of my favorites from your selection and your follow-up annotation is "It's not e-learning or c-learning; it's learning." That to me says it all! And the quote by Plato is timeless. Thanks, Dr. Collins

Dr. Linda D. Collins 7 3 November 3, 2013

e-Learning Themes and Synthesis

The purpose of this assignment was to present the themes and synthesis of e-learning through research. The quotes below represent research and facets of education and learning as it relates specifically to e-learning. During the research of this course, it became obvious that the traditional beliefs of educational scholars and institutions throughout the world are very similar to the beliefs of learning using information and communication technologies. Learning can be represented in many ways to include learning online or e-learning.

Quote #1 – “I never teach my pupils. I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.” This is a quote about learning from Albert Einstein and although it does not specifically mention e-learning, it does mention providing students with the conditions to learn successfully. This is what e-learning can do for today’s digital native students. A student who uses e-learning as a path to knowledge can learn just as much as the student sitting in a traditional classroom.

Quote #2 – “Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.” This quote by Benjamin Franklin refers to the powerful learning that happens when you allow students to go hands on with their learning experiences. E-learning is all about the involvement, interaction, collaboration, and discourse between students, teachers, content, and informational technologies. Today’s student learns best with the everyday tools used to work, learn, and play.

Quote #3 – “E-learning is an excellent option in education, particularly when there are hindrances to traditional learning situations.” This quote by L. Hinkle mentions traditional learning. Many students prefer traditional learning because it provides them with the best educational options for them however, for others many barriers found in the traditional

classroom environment prevent them from gaining the knowledge they seek. E-learning provides a way for students to overcome these barriers and continue their education.

Quote #4 – “It’s not e-learning or c-learning; it’s learning.” This quote by Chuck Ferguson was selected not because it specifically mentioned e-learning but because it makes the point that learning, no matter how it is delivered, is still just learning. It truly does not make a difference whether the learning happens electronically or in the classroom.

Quote #5 – “They say necessity is the mother of invention. Using the brain that we humans are famous for, we have surpassed the greatest obstacles life has put across our path by innovative strategies and the drive to better ourselves for the future. E-learning is one such phenomenon which has revolutionized the world of employee training as we know it. Now, with just a click of a few buttons, we can be open to a vast library of knowledge which will (hopefully) have no end.” This quote Lucy Morgan, CEO of myfedtrainer.com, mentions e-learning as a way of changing how learning happens in education.

Quote #6 – “In the online environment, everyone has an equal opportunity to participate in class discussions.” This quote has been seen over and over again to provide a reason why learning online through e-learning allows for all student input to be expressed and valued. With e-learning, all students can participate in online discussions equally and teachers can ask questions that all students have the opportunity to answer. Submissions to teacher prompted discussions can be posted in an online discussion forum or sent directly to the teacher. The teacher can decide to work one-on-one with the student or address the class as a whole.

Quote #7 – “Online you get to know your students’ minds not just their faces.” This quote found in *Learning Networks: A Field Guide to Teaching and Learning Online*. “The ‘e’ in e-learning stands for experience, identifies the idea that online teachers have the ability and

opportunity to know their students' minds, which is seemingly more important in education than a student's face. A face can be quickly forgotten however; most teachers tend to remember the work of a student: a paper written, a piece of artwork, or performance. It is the interaction and scholarly discourse between teacher and student, which is the most significant educational interaction.

Quote #8 – “It allows students to work and learn at their own pace without the unyielding time restrictions of traditional learning.” This particular quote was found in several online blogs and websites written by several different authors. Students who can learn at their own pace and time, without personally related barriers, are certain to be motivated and more successful in an effort to continue their learning.

Quote #9 – “In times when small instructor-led classes tend to be the exception, electronic learning solutions can offer more collaboration and interaction with experts and peers as well as a higher success rate than the live alternative.” This quote by K. Bachman recognizes that many traditional classrooms are overcrowded, including colleges and universities. Class size does matter and e-learning can provide a more personal learning experience, helping the student feel comfortable with their learning environment. E-learning not only provides opportunities to collaborate with peers but offers interactions with content experts giving way to a more rich learning experience.

Quote #10 – “He told me his company's eLearning was blended, to which I responded, ‘What's new?’ Classroom teachers have always blended their methods – lecture, discussion, practice, reading, projects, and writing, for example. Blended is only a revelation for people who had been trying to do everything with just one tool – usually the computer. The rest of us have always tried to use the right tool for the job.” This quote, found in an article written by Jay

Cross, recognizes that classroom teachers have always used learning strategies, teaching methods, theories, and pedagogies to reach a student's learning potential. Many students need hands-on experiences when learning and e-learning is just one of many ways to provide such an experience. The best teachers find innovative ways to encourage and increase student achievement, whether this utilizes e-learning or not. Educators can not assume e-learning will be the ultimate method of reaching a student's potential, but it is one more tool educators can, and should, use.

Quote #11 – “Basically, with the help of the Internet, not only is learning made more accessible and easier for a lot of people, it also helps speed up the learning process since the medium is more animated, interactive, and illustrative with the use of the right technological know-how.” This quote by Joel Owens talks about learning being animated, interactive and illustrative. Education, has for years, been aware of different learning styles but it is just now that this knowledge of how students learning is being used to increase student achievement. E-learning has the potential to differentiate instruction for each learning style and this is important to education today.

Quote #12 – “The ‘e’ of eLearning is not the important thing. Neither is the ‘learning.’ What’s important is doing. It’s like the tree that falls in the forest not making a sound (because no one hears it). If somebody learns something but their behavior doesn’t change, they didn’t really learn anything.” This quote by a blog writer named “anol” brings learning to the forefront of education and highlights what is the most important. It is not necessarily the method of how learning takes place but the knowledge gained.

Quote #13 – “E-learning allows teachers to access tools that enable them to deliver customized assessments and gain immediate feedback on individual and class progress. With

this feedback, teachers can provide personalized learning opportunities, using remediation and enrichment to deliver more differentiated instruction that better meets each child's needs." The author of this quote, "prosperitywithintent", writes of individualization in education. E-learning gives teachers the tools, techniques, and methods needed to reach today's student learner. With e-learning teachers can provide students with timely feedback and future instruction. Teachers are able to use feedback as a tool to help individualize student learning and value student work effort.

Quote #14 – "Students in well-designed and well-implemented online courses learn significantly more and more effectively than those who attended poorly planned and poorly delivered online courses." This quote by L. Layton-James indicates that e-learning must be well designed and implemented in order to be effective. Just as a teacher who is inefficient in a traditional classroom, an inefficient teacher online can be just as detrimental to a student's online learning process. No matter what, the teacher is responsible for creating a learning environment, which is conducive to meeting the learning needs of their students, despite whether it is in an e-learning or traditional learning environment.

Quote #15 – "Do not train children to learning by force and harshness, but direct them to it by what amuses their minds, so that you may be better able to discover with accuracy the peculiar bent of the genius of each." This quote, reportedly by Athenian scholar Plato circa 347 BC, refers to the idea that learning happens when you meet students where they are in today's world. True learning cannot be forced but instead can be cultivated and grown in the minds of students; given the right motivation and tools in which to learn.

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Comment [1]: Nice work on your reference citations.

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